



EPA makes Changes to the Cleanup Plan for a small portion of Area 9/10 of the Southeast Rockford Groundwater Superfund Site in Rockford, Illinois

EPA announces changes to the cleanup plan for a small portion of Source Area 9/10 of the Superfund site, located near 9th Street and 23rd Avenue. EPA believes the changes outlined below will make the cleanup of this source of contamination faster and more effective. Soil contamination at Source Area 9/10 is one of four major sources of pollution in the Southeast Rockford Groundwater Superfund Site.

In August, 2005, EPA and the Illinois EPA approved the following changes to the cleanup plan:

- Digging up and removing contaminated soil four to six feet below the surface in an outside storage area next to the sidewalk east of 9th Street.
- Refilling the excavated area with clean soil and then paving the surface with asphalt.
- Removing existing monitoring wells in the excavated area.
- Launching a pilot project that will inject a hydrogen-based compound into the groundwater that is intended to speed the breakdown of organic contaminants.
- Install new monitoring wells to monitor the progress of the pilot project.

The rest of Source Area 9/10 will be cleaned up using "air sparging" and soil vapor extraction, as called for in the cleanup plan detailed in the June, 2002, Record of Decision. "Air sparging" is a technique of injecting air or oxygen into the ground water to flush contaminants to the surface as bubbles. Once near the surface, the bubbles containing the pollutants are sucked into the soil vapor extraction system, processed and then permanently removed.

Please note that vehicle and pedestrian traffic may be restricted at various times on 9th Street while digging occurs in this area.

EPA believes these changes will best protect human health and the environment in a cost-effective manner. The complete explanation and description of the cleanup changes are available for viewing at these two public record sites in a document entitled **Explanation of Significant Differences**:

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Seventh Floor
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, Ill.

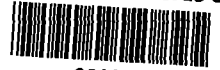
Rockford Public Library
Rock River Branch
3128 S. 11th Street
Rockford, Ill.

For further information, contact:

Virginia Forrer
Illinois EPA Community Relations
Coordinator at (217)785-1269
Virginia.Forrer@epa.state.il.us

Mike Joyce
EPA Community Involvement
Coordinator at (800)621-8431
9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. weekdays
joyce.mike@epa.gov

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